

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for recognizing forged bank notes with a bank note processing machine, the method comprising the steps of:

processing the bank notes with the bank note processing machine;

checking the bank notes with comparative data stored by the bank note processing machine and derived from authentic bank notes and known forgeries, wherein the comparative data is produced by capturing features selected from the group consisting of printing inks with special optical and/or magnetic properties, metallic or magnetic security threads, paper used for the bank notes being free of brighteners, information contained in an electrical circuit, bank note size, printing pattern, colors, optical appearance, and combinations thereof; and

using additional comparative data for new types of forgeries, which are not recognized based on the comparative data derived from authentic bank notes and known forgeries;

wherein the bank notes to be checked are compared with both the comparative data and the additional comparative data for new types of forgeries so as to determine whether a forged bank note is present.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein bank notes to be checked are compared with the comparative data, and wherein only a comparison with the additional comparative data for new types of forgeries is effected, if with the check with the help of the comparative data the authenticity of the bank notes to be checked has been determined.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein bank notes to be checked are compared with the comparative data, so as to determine their kind, and only a comparison with the additional comparative data for new types of forgeries is

effected, if for the determined kind of bank notes comparative data for new types of forgeries are available.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein comparative data and additional comparative data for new types of forgeries are available for each possible position of the bank notes.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the additional comparative data for new types of forgeries are derived and produced from the new type of forgery after the first occurrence of the new type of forgery.

6. (Currently Amended) A bank note processing machine comprising a control device, a non-volatile memory and a sensor device, for recognizing forged bank notes, wherein the bank notes to be checked are captured by the sensor device and data are derived, which are compared with comparative data stored in the non-volatile memory, which are derived from authentic bank notes and known forgeries, wherein the comparative data is produced by capturing features selected from the group consisting of printing inks with special optical and/or magnetic properties, metallic or magnetic security threads, paper used for the bank notes being free of brighteners, information contained in an electrical circuit, bank note size, printing pattern, colors, optical appearance, and combinations thereof.

and further wherein in the non-volatile memory additional comparative data for new types of forgeries, which are not recognized based on the comparative data derived from authentic bank notes and known forgeries, are stored, the data of the sensor device for the bank notes to be checked being compared by the control device with both the comparative data and the additional comparative data for new types of forgeries, so as to determine whether a forged bank note is present.

7. (Previously Presented) The bank note processing machine according to claim 6, wherein an interface is provided, via which additional comparative data for new types of forgeries are loaded and stored in the non-volatile memory.

8. (New) A method for recognizing forged bank notes with a bank note processing machine, the method comprising the steps of:

processing the bank notes with the bank note processing machine;

checking the bank notes with comparative data stored by the bank note processing machine and derived from authentic bank notes and known forgeries, wherein the comparative data is produced by capturing features related to physical properties of bank notes; and

using additional comparative data for new types of forgeries, which are not recognized based on the comparative data derived from authentic bank notes and known forgeries;

wherein the bank notes to be checked are compared with both the comparative data and the additional comparative data for new types of forgeries so as to determine whether a forged bank note is present.